

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 5341

S E C R E T CAIRO 7225

NODIS/CHEROKEE

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: PFOR US EG XF

SUBJECT: MESSAGE FOR FAHMY

REF: STATE 173138

1. FAHMY WAS WITH THE PRESIDENT MOST OF THE MORNING AND EARLY AFTERNOON AT AN ASU MEETING. I FINALLY MANAGED TO CONTACT HIM ON THE SECURE PHONE WHEN HE RETURNED AT 1500 LOCAL AND CONVEYED TO HIM THE MESSAGE CITED REFTEL. I ASKED THAT HE ALSO PASS IT TO THE PRESIDENT. HE EXPRESSED APPRECIATION, BUT ASKED THAT I GIVE HIM THE MESSAGE IN WRITING AS AN ORAL MESSAGE SINCE HE FOUND IT SOMEWHAT COMPLICATED TO RECORD. I DID SO.

2. FAHMY PROFESSED TO SEE A CONTRADICTION IN OUR VIEW THAT NOW THAT SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS HAVE BEGUN WHICH OFFER A REAL CHANCE OF SUCCESS AND OUR EXPECTATION THAT SERIOUS BARGAINING WILL ONLY BEGIN ONCE OUR SCENARIO HAS REACHED A POINT WHERE THE EGYPTIAN FALLBACK POSITION IS SURFACED TO THE ISRAELIS. I TOLD HIM THAT I SAW NO SUCH CONTRADICTION. WE WERE GETTING INTO A SERIOUS BARGAINING SITUATION AND WITH AN HONEST EFFORT BY BOTH SIDES HAD REASON TO BELIEVE THERE IS A REAL CHANCE OF SUCCESS.

3. SOME TEN MINUTES AFTER OUR CONVERSATION, FAHMY TELEPHONED ME BACK ON THE SECURE PHONE TO EXPRESS HIS CONCERN THAT THE ISRAELIS NOT RPT NOT BE ALLOWED TO ENGAGE IN STALLING TACTICS SIMPLY TO GAIN TIME.

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HE RECALLED RABIN'S RECENT STATEMENT THAT THERE IS NO RPT NO HURRY TO

REACH AN INTERIM AGREEMENT. HE ALSO ASKED THAT I CAUTION YOU ABOUT ISRAELI SUBSTANTIVE DEMANDS. SPECIFICALLY, HE RECALLED THAT AT ASWAN SOME 16 DAYS HAD BEEN SPENT DISCUSSING POLITICAL CONCESSIONS DEMANDED BY THE ISRAELIS. NOTHING HAD BEEN SAID ABOUT THE MILITARY ASPECTS UNTIL THE VERY LAST DAY. AS A RESULT OF THE ISRAELI POSITION ON THE MILITARY ASPECTS, THE NEGOTIATIONS HAD COLLAPSED. THIS TIME, FAHMY NOTED, THE MILITARY ASPECTS APPEAR TO BE PROGRESSING, BUT THE ISRAELIS HAVE NOT YET NOT THUS FAR RAISED THE MATTER OF POLITICAL CONCESSIONS. HE ASSUMED THEY WILL AT SOME TIME DO SO. HE SAID HE ALSO ASSUMES THAT YOU ARE AWARE FROM THE ASWAN TALKS OF THE LIMITS TO WHICH SADAT CAN GO IN GIVING POLITICAL CONCESSIONS. THE ISRAELIS SHOULD NOT YET NOT BE PERMITTED SUDDENLY TO ADDUCE POLITICAL DEMANDS THAT YOU KNOW SADAT CANNOT MEET. HE URGED THAT YOU KEEP AFTER THEM AND MAINTAIN THE MOMENTUM OF THE NEGOTIATIONS.

4. FAHMY ALSO TOLD ME THAT THE ASU HAD THIS MORNING APPROVED A THREE-MONTH EXTENSION OF UNEF. HE EXPECTS TO SEND INSTRUCTIONS TO THE EGYPTIAN REPRESENTATIVE THIS AFTERNOON, BUT CAUTIONED THAT ACCEPTANCE IS DEPENDENT UPON AN ADEQUATE UNSC RESOLUTION. IN THIS CONNECTION, HE EMPHASIZED THAT A RESOLUTION MUST REFLECT THE UNSC'S CONCERN THAT THERE BE NO YET NO FURTHER STALEMATE IN THE NEGOTIATIONS. MOREOVER, IN ORDER TO ENCOURAGE SADAT, A PARAGRAPH SHOULD BE INCLUDED EXPRESSING APPRECIATION FOR WHAT SADAT HAS DONE.

5. WITH SOME ANNOYANCE, FAHMY NOTED THAT THE UK REPRESENTATIVE AT THE UN HAD REFUSED TO RECOGNIZE SADAT'S POSITIVE INITIATIVES. AFTER THE UNSC PRESIDENT'S APPEAL, THE UK REPRESENTATIVE HAD APOLOGIZED TO HIS EGYPTIAN COLLEAGUE FOR HIS POSITION. AMBASSADOR MOYNIHAN, ON THE OTHER HAND, HAD BEEN FAR MORE UNDERSTANDING. FAHMY SAID THAT HE INTENDS TO COMPLAIN TO PRIMIN WILSON ABOUT THE BRITISH REPRESENTATIVE'S CONDUCT. FAHMY ADDED THAT HE WILL PROBABLY ANNOUNCE SOME TIME THIS AFTERNOON GOE'S AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE TO A THREE-MONTH EXTENSION OF UNEF.

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